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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 HA-05 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AF-10 /103 W
----------108815 010049Z /75
R 010017Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7930
INFO USINT HAVANA

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, MX
SUBJECT: VISIT OF CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO MEXICO

REF: HAVANA 251

1. ON JANUARY 25 CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ISIDORO MALMIERCA BEGAN A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO MEXICO RECIPROCATING MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER ROEL'S VISIT TO CUBA IN DECEMBER 1977. THE VISIT WAS NOTABLE FOR THE RELATIVELY LOW-KEY COVERAGE IT RECEIVED IN THE MEXICAN PRESS, WHICH WAS PREOCCUPIED BY DOMESTIC ISSUES AND FOLLOW-UP OF AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BERGLAND'S VISIT, WHICH ENDED THE DAY OF MALMIERCA'S ARRIVAL. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE VISIT WAS NOTED FOR THE LACK OF ANY SIGNIFICANT NEW DEVELOPMENT IN BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

2. MALMIERCA'S VISIT INCLUDED A 30-MINUTE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO AND EXTENDED DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ROEL ABOUT THE CURRENT STATUS OF MEXICAN-
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CUBAN RELATIONS. MEXICO'S REFUSAL TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH CUBA WAS FREQUENTLY (AS IS TRADITIONAL) CITED IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS, AND THE MEETINGS WERE DESCRIBED AS OCCURRING IN A CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE. CUBAN OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING MALMIERCA WERE ULISES ESTRADA, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS, CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY; JULIO IMPERATORI, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL

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BANK OF CUBA; CARLOS AMAT FORES, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, FOREIGN MINISTRY; OLGA MIRANDA BRAVO, LEGAL ADVISER, FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. FOREIGN MINISTERS ROEL AND MALMIERCA SIGNED A BILATERAL ACCORD AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE WORKING PORTION OF THE VISIT. BILATERALLY, THE ACCORD TREATS THREE AREAS OF COOPERATION: CULTURE AND EDUCATION; SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. BOTH COUNTRIES COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO INCREASING TOURISM AND RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO A JOINT VENTURE IN THE MINING FIELD, UTILIZING MIXED CAPITAL. MEXICO OFFERED TO FACILI TATE CUBAN EXPORTS TO MEXICO OF RUM, NICKEL AND TOBACCO. THE ACCORD ESTABLISHES A GENERAL MIXED INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION WHICH IS TO DRAFT A NEW BILATERAL COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT BY APRIL 1978.

4. THE JOINT ACCORD ALSO EXPRESSES AGREEMENT ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES:

--CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN CUBA AND MEXICO ON THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO (REFTEL);

--CONDEMNATION OF THE CHILEAN JUNTA FOR ITS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS;

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--SUPPORT FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM (CUBA INDICATED ITS INTEREST IN THE FORMATION OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF SELA FOR THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF FERTILIZERS);

CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID AND SUPPORT FOR THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE PEOPLES OF NAMIBIA, ZIMBABWE AND SOUTH AFRICA;

--SUPPORT FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER;

--SUPPORT FOR THE "EFFORTS OF THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT TO ACHIEVE THE EXECUTION OF FULL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE PANAMA CANAL."

5. MALMIERCA INVITED ROEL TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS TO BE HELD IN HAVANA IN 1979. ROEL SAID THAT MEXICO WOULD FOLLOW CLOSELY THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND WOULD CONSIDER ATTENDING IT IN THE STATUS OF AN OBSERVER. ROEL IN TURN INVITED MALMIERCA TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE OF CARIBBEAN BASIN COUNTRIES WHICH MEXICO HAD OFFERED TO HOST. MALMIERCA PROMISED TO STUDY

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THE INVITATION CAREFULLY.

6. AT THE CLOSE OF HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO MALMIERCA MENTIONED THE DESIRE OF FIDEL CASTRO TO VISIT MEXICO AND THE POSSIBILITY OF LOPEZ PORTILLO VISITIG CUBA. HE SAID THERE ARE "NO DATES, ONLY DESIRES."

7. COMMENT: ROEL IS RAISING ONCE AGAIN THE ISSUE OF MEXICO AS A SITE FOR A CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE (SEE MEXICO 16840 AND MEXICO 17933). HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR CUBAN PARTICIPATION IS A NEW DEVELOPMENT. FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS AND THE NEW CUBAN STANCE TOWARD THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO WILL FOLLOW AS DEVELOPED. TREATMENT OF ALL OTHER ISSUES (PURCHASE OF CUBAN RUM, NICKEL AND TOBACCO)
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APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN A REITERATION OF PROMISES TO CU THAT MEXICO HAS NOT YET FULFILLED. A CASTRO VISIT TO

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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----------108826 010050Z /75
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MEXICO DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE IN THE OFFING; MALMIERCA MAY HAVE WISHED TO SEE HOW SUCH A VISIT MIGHT BE RECEIVED.

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PUBLIC REACTION - BOTH OF THE GOM AND THE PRESS - SEEMED
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, CU, MX, (MALMIERCA PEOLI, ISIDORO OCTAVIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a6c08ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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